

Amendments to the Specification.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 53, line 22 and ending at page 55, line 2 with the following paragraph:

An antimicrobial protide of the invention can therefore be designed such that is activated in a broad context, for example, by selecting an activator that is common to a variety of pathogens or a variety of cancers. Alternatively, a more narrow context can be selected by preparing a protide that encompasses one or more activator sites that are triggered by activators particular to such a narrower context. If desired, a protide of the invention can be designed so as to be activated in the context of Gram-positive versus Gram-negative bacteria. Gram-positive bacteria utilize so-called LPXTG (Leucine-Proline-X-Threonine-Glycine) (SEQ ID NO: 5) or related motifs in structural proteins intended for cell wall or extracellular membrane surface localization. Numerous surface proteins integral for virulence of Gram-positive pathogens such as *S. aureus* and *S. pyogenes* are anchored to the Gram-positive cell wall/envelope complex via a protein processing mechanism, utilizing a C-terminal sorting sequence with an LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 5) motif. Sortase enzymes are membrane proteins common to many Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens that cleave precursor proteins intended for the cell wall/envelope complex between threonine and glycine residues found within the LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 5) motif. Thus, as an example, a given sortase can catalyze the formation of a covalent amide bond between the carboxyl-sidegroup of threonine and amino-sidegroup of adjacent peptidoglycan. Significantly, the sortase mechanism is predominant in several Gram-positive pathogens including *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis*, streptococci such as *S. pyogenes*, *S. pneumoniae*, and *S. agalactiae*, enterococci such as *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis*, as well as difficult Gram-negative pathogens such as *Ps. aeruginosa* and various members of the family Enterobacteriaceae, where it is integral for maturation of surface protein attachment to the cell wall/envelope complex. Protides can therefore be prepared that contain LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 5) activation sites that allow exploitation of the sortase mechanism to liberate one or more antimicrobial effectors, leading to competitive inhibition of sortase, which can also be outcompeted by the activator sites from acting on natural substrates to catalyze essential surface protein anchoring.